

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended, and claims 16-18 are added, to recite additional features disclosed in the specification at, for example, Figs. 1-4, and paragraphs [0060] and [0067]. Claims 4, 11 and 12 are amended to obviate informalities. Claims 2-15 are amended to be consistent with claim 1.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the drawings, asserting that claim 5 recites features not shown in the drawings. Claim 5 is amended. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claims 11 and 12. Claims 11 and 12 are amended to obviate informalities, as the Examiner suggested. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 11 and 12 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9, 11, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,590,479 to Devries; rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Devries in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0160266 to Yanagisawa; rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Devries in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,378,922 to Sovero; and rejects claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Devries in view of U.S. Patent No. 2002/0155670 to Malik. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended to recite a second metal film and a third metal film with respective surfaces, as outlined above. The applied references do not disclose or suggest these additional features.

In particular, Devries appears to disclose a device having different semiconductor regions and electrodes. See Figs. 1-4 and col. 3, lines 1-11 and 34-41. However, Devries does not appear to disclose or suggest a first metal film, a second metal film and a third metal

film, each having respective surfaces . Thus, Devries does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1.

Yanagisawa, Sovero and Malik do not disclose or suggest a first metal film, a second metal film and a third metal film, each having respective surfaces. Therefore, they do not supply the subject matter lacking in Devries.

For at least the above reasons, Devries, Yanagisawa, Sovero and Malik, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1, and claims 2-15 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-18 are patentable over the applied references. For example, Devries, Yanagisawa, Sovero and Malik, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a first metal film, a second metal film and a third metal film, as recited in claim 16, and claims 17 and 18 depending therefrom.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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